

Today's
Advertisements.

IMPERIAL KWANGTUNG LOAN
OF 1894.
PAYMENT OF INTEREST AND PART
PRINCIPAL
(FIFTH PERIOD.)

NOTICE is hereby given that the Warrants for interest on, and repayment of Part Principal of the Bonds of the IMPERIAL KWANGTUNG LOAN OF 1894 will be ready for issue on the 31st January, 1898, (the due date, 2nd January, being SUNDAY) at the Office of the Imperial Maritime Customs, Canton.

E. B. DREW,
Commissioner of Customs.
Custom House,
Canton, 30th December, 1897. [1949]

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.
No. 579.

IT is hereby notified that the Hongkong Volunteers will FIRE from Machine Guns and 7-pounder Guns from the land in the Bay East of Deep Water Bay on 1st January, 1898, on a land range, if no traffic interferes. Pickets will be posted to ensure safety of land range.

By Command,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 29th December, 1897. [1930]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR SHANGHAI.
THE Company's Steamship

"FOOCHOW,"
Captain Blackmore, will be despatched at above on SATURDAY, the 1st January.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 30th December, 1897. [1918]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.
THE Company's Steamship

"CHANGSHA,"
Captain Williams, will be despatched at above on SUNDAY, the 2nd January, at Daylight.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 30th December, 1897. [1917]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND
CALCUTTA.

"ARRATON APCAR,"
Captain F. H. Suedberg, will be despatched for the above Ports on TUESDAY, the 4th January, at 3 P.M.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 30th December, 1897. [1921]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAM-
SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.
(Calling at PORT DARWIN and QUEENSLAND
Ports, and taking through Cargo to
ADELAIDE, NEW ZEALAND,
TASMANIA, &c.)

THE Steamship

"MENMUIR,"
Captain McArthur, will be despatched for the above Ports on TUESDAY, the 4th January, at 4 P.M.
This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber which ensures the supply of fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.
This Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.
A daily qualified Surgeon is carried.
N.B.—Return Tickets issued by this Company to and from AUSTRALIA are available for return by the Steamers of the CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY and vice versa.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 30th December, 1897. [1921]

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR
STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA,
ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN
PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA,
PERMAN GULF, CONTINENTAL AND
AMERICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"THAMES,"
Captain E. R. Dowell, R.N.R., carrying Her Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY, &c., on THURSDAY, the 13th January, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports.

All Cargo for France and London will be transhipped at Colombo into a steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London.
Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.
Shippers are respectfully requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Bills of Lading.
For further Particulars, apply to
H. A. RITCHIE,
Superintendent.
Hongkong, 30th December, 1897. [1921]

£100,000,000 UNCLAIMED!

DOUGLAS REGISTERED LIST containing names of 20,000 Families advertised for, to claim property and money since 1700. Price 1s. 6d., post free 2s. Every man and woman should buy this book, as instructions are given how to recover property from Chancery, DOUGLAS & CO., 62, Strand, London, E.C. 4. A fortune may await you. Will be searched for.

Intimations.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK &
COMPANY,
VICTORIA DISPENSARY,
HONGKONG.

AERATED WATERS.

SIMPLE AERATED WATER.

SODA WATER.

LEMONADE.

GINGER ALE.

SARSAPARILLA.

RASPBERRYADE, &c.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK & Co.'s WATERS are made under the constant supervision of a duly qualified English Chemist and will bear comparison with the best English Manufactures. Special terms to HOTELS, CLUBS, MEN'S and other Large Consumers. Any complaints should be addressed to the Manager, Hongkong, 1st March, 1897. [1506]

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the "Manager, Hongkong Telegraph" and not to the Editor. Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and not to individual members of the staff. Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith. The Editor does not assume any responsibility for the return of communications, but will be glad to return them if they are accompanied by a stamped envelope. The Editor does not assume any responsibility for the return of communications, but will be glad to return them if they are accompanied by a stamped envelope.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINES & SPIRITS.

ALL these are selected by our London House, bought direct at first hand, imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus saving all intermediate profits, and enabling us to supply the best growths at MODERATE PRICES.

PRICE LISTS, with Full Details, to be had on Application.

PORT after removal should be rested a month before use. When required for drinking at once it should be ordered to be decanted at the Dispensary before being sent out.

SHERRY—Excellent Dinner and After Dinner Wines of very superior Vintage. All are true Xeres Wines.

CLARET—Our Claret, including the lowest priced, are guaranteed to be the genuine product of the juice of the grape and are not artificially made from raisins and currents, as is generally the case with Cheap Wines.

BRANDY—All our Brandy is guaranteed to be genuine, a question of age and vintage.

WHISKY—All our Whisky is of excellent quality and of greater age than most brands in the market. The SCOTCH WHISKY marked "E" is universally popular, and is pronounced by the best local connoisseurs to be superior to any other brand in the Hongkong market.

We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorized Agents at the Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.
Hongkong, 8th December, 1897. [6]

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1897.

REUTER'S MESSAGES.

THE BRITISH CHINA SQUADRON.
LONDON, December 28th.
The Admiralty believes that the China Squadron is in the vicinity of Port Hamilton. The assembly at Chemulpo is discredited.

RUSSIA AND KOREA.
The United States mail brings the text of a Russo-Korean Agreement whereby M. Alexeff has replaced Mr. McLavy Brown, thus securing the financial control of Korea for the indefinite term.

WAR NEWS.

WAUR THAN EVER.
We have a special telegram, not from our own correspondent, that the Chinese Fleet has captured Vladivostok and is sailing across country to St. Petersburg. We don't believe it.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE buying rate for sovereigns is \$10.18 per £.

THE milk-milk laying of hands on a tin of Milkmaid milk at No. 2 Godown, Kowloon, to-day cost a coolie six weeks' hard labour.

H.M.S. Mohawk takes the place of the Rapid on the Australian Station. She was daily expected at Thursday Island when the last mail left.

THE mortality returns of the colony for the week ended Dec. 18th show the death rate to be 18.7 per 1000 and for the following week 17.7 per 1000.

H.M.S. Powerful arrived at Singapore yesterday and was the leave on the same day. If she did so she may be expected here on or about Tuesday morning.

NOTICE has been issued by Mr. A. Denison, Hon. Secretary of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club, that the Club Race No. 3, January 2nd, 1898, is postponed to January 9th.

THE Oplum Ordinance still continues to help out the colony's revenue in good style. Five owners of "illicit" to-day were ordered by Mr. Wodehouse to contribute \$10 each.

By the French mail steamer on Tuesday, Capt. Little, of the 1st Parajab Infantry, who has been appointed second in command of the Hongkong Regiment, vice Major Retallick, arrives in Hongkong.

THE "At Home" at the Officers' Mess, Hongkong Regiment, to have been held on Friday, the 31st instant, has been postponed until Friday, the 7th January, owing to unavoidable circumstances.

At the Sanitary Board's meeting to-day a return was submitted showing that from Nov. 17th to Dec. 1st there had been 213 cases of plague at Bombay and 148 deaths from the disease during the same period.

INSPECTOR Hanson had a trio of offenders at the Magistracy to-day for having unjust weights in their possession. Two of the delinquents were fined \$10 and the other was ordered to pay a penalty of \$15.

MESSRS. CHI WO & Co.'s new Hongkong-built Canton river steamer *Halong*, 400 tons, Capt. Auster, left here for Canton to-night. She has good accommodation for both European and Chinese passengers.

THE Post Office will be closed on New Year's Day and Monday, the 3rd January, except from 8 to 9 a.m. Correspondence for Peak and Kowloon may be posted up to 9 a.m. The Night Box will be kept open. The Money Order Office will be entirely closed on both days.

COLONEL Chard, V.C., one of the heroes of the Zulu war was buried near Taunton last month in the presence of a concourse of people, including the officers of the Royal Engineers from Bristol, Cheltenham, Exeter, Torquay and other places. A large number of floral tributes were laid on the grave, including a wreath of bay-leaves tied with satin streamers from the Queen. Attached was the inscription, "A mark of admiration and regard for a brave soldier from his Sovereign, Victoria R.I."

WHILE on her way from Kobe to Yokohama the Messageries Maritimes steamer *Sepahan* broke down at 5 p.m. on December 14th, after having left Kobe at 7 a.m. on the same day. She was brought to a standstill through her connecting rod breaking, resulting in the cylinder cover, piston, go-ahead guide and guide shoes being smashed and the bed plate was also severely damaged. The steamer, says the *Japan Gazette*, is fortunately supplied with triple expansion engines and the damage only affected the intermediate engines. After the wreckage had been cleared away a start was made at noon the next day and the liner finished her voyage with the help of her sails. The delay nearly reached 18 hours and all credit is due to the captain and officers in bringing her into port only 22 hours behind her scheduled time.

RECENT exchanges show that the gates in England lately were terribly severe and attended with great disaster. The Thames rose to an extraordinary height and flooded the embankment and at Woolwich the Arsenal was swamped for an area of a mile and a half in length and 300 yards wide, the electric plant being submerged. Soldiers to the number of 700 assisted in rescuing the stores and saving the powder magazines. Despite all efforts however, the works suffered severe damage. At Dover the heavy sea swept through the streets of the town, whilst at Seaham, five miles from Sunderland, the gale was destroyed. Many buildings at Margate, Ramsgate, and Chatham, and the promenade of Herne Bay also suffered destruction. Six wrecks are known to have occurred on the coast of Norfolk alone, all hands being lost in every case. Seven shipsyards were destroyed on the east coast and the Channel steamboat services had to be suspended.

THE thirty-two men charged with complicity in the alleged Triad Society were brought up on remand at the Magistracy to-day. Mr. H. L. Denys (Crown Solicitor) prosecuted. Mr. Grist appeared for the defendants. Inspector Hanson in answer to Mr. Grist said he had only his own opinion to prove that the papers, &c., belonged to a Triad Society. Mr. Denys submitted a book by Mr. Vaughan, a barrister at Singapore, to prove that the chips on the paper and in the book were identical as signifying a Triad Society. Mr. Denys also quoted Milne on the same subject. Mr. Wodehouse thought that better evidence should be given and Mr. Denys asked for a remand. O Fung Chu, chief translator at the Registrar General's Office, was called and deposed that he had not seen the chop (proceeds) and did not know what it was. Instead of the date the chop mentioned the "Heavenly calculation." It should have mentioned the Ming dynasty. After a good deal of evidence had been further led the case was remanded till Thursday next.

MESSRS. Benjamin, Kelly & Potts, in their *Weekly Share Reports*, dated Hongkong, Wednesday, 30th December, say:—A fair amount of business has been transacted during the week, notwithstanding the Christmas holidays, and rates generally show an upward tendency. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have improved their position and sales have been effected at \$27.5, \$28, and \$28.5 and close steady. Indo-China have been placed at \$51 and more shares are wanted. China Sugar has weakened slightly and a sale at \$150 is reported, but at the close the rate is much firmer with buyers at a point higher. Lurons are obtainable at \$37. Passions have been done at \$3.85 and are wanted. Charbonnages have been placed at \$110. Raubs are much firmer and up to \$22 have been paid, and more shares can be placed. Olivins A are obtainable at \$19, while B's are engaged for at \$21. Great Easterns have charged hands at \$20 and \$3. Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are wanted at 221 per cent premium. Kowloon Wharf shares are still engaged for at \$35, and Wanchals at \$41.

A NUMBER of pretty little toy wall almanacs ornamented in infant figures in Kate Greenway costume, have reached us from Mr. Whitley, the Hongkong agent for the Sperry Flour Mills in California. Sperry is a name so well-known that it speaks for itself and the daily reminder conveyed by these calendars is as useful as it is ornamental.

A COMMISSARAT coolie was to-day charged at the Magistracy with stealing three blankets from the R. E. quarters, Wellington Barracks. It seems that he had gone into the barracks with a Chinese sapper who gave him the blankets. The charge of theft was dismissed and an officer of the R.E., who was in court, said that the military authorities would deal with the Sapper.

OWNED to the "slump" in silver the United Cable Companies have increased their rates, the currency equivalent of the franc being now fixed at 40 cents (Mexican), at which rate the charges on all international telegrams from China will be collected from the 1st January, 1898. Full particulars and copies of the revised tariff can, as will be seen by an advertisement in another column, be obtained from the Companies' offices.

THERE is a good deal of activity at the Navy Yard at present, and to-day the place looked like some enormous storehouse so filled was it with bales, packages, &c., of all sorts of stores for the fleet. For some time past "overtime" has been the rule in the clerical departments and all hands, generally, have been kept busy ever since the site in the north took place. It is expected that the *Grafton* will leave here to-morrow to join the fleet.

A CHINESEMAN who was charged with having assaulted his wife and caused her to be taken to hospital was to-day fined \$15, in default six weeks' hard, and he was also bound over to keep the peace for six months in one sum of \$50. The trouble arose "all along of a concubine" and plaintiff asked that her recalcitrant hubby might be ordered to pay her \$5 a month for her maintenance. Mr. Wodehouse said he could not make the order but that if she was molested again she could inform the police.

Two collisions took place in the harbour yesterday, one unfortunately resulting in a life being lost. The first collision took place at 5:30 a.m., when the tug *Tow* ran down a fishing boat off Praya West, but did not seriously damage her. The second mishap took place off the Kowloon Wharf at 3:30 p.m. when the Ferry Co's steamer *Rising Star* ran down a sampan. There were seven people aboard the sampan and one, a child aged twelve months, was drowned. It is reported that the crew of the sampan were in fault. An enquiry will be held in the latter case.

INSPECTOR Bullin seems to have got on the track of the perpetrators of a rather extensive robbery at the Cosmopolitan Docks. Indian P.C. 510 to-day arrested two Chinese at Kowloon who were unable to give a satisfactory account of themselves and meanwhile news reached the Inspector of a big robbery at the Dock. Nearly \$500 worth of brass fittings had been stolen but he had since recovered \$10,750 worth. When the prisoners were being paraded to-day at the Yau-mai charge room one of the two burst out crying and the Inspector subsequently learned that he was an employee at the Docks. The case was remanded till Wednesday next.

THE latest addition to the P. & O. fleet, the *Arabia*, was launched recently from the shipbuilding yards of Messrs. Caird and Co., at Greenock. She is one of the four 19-knot passenger ships the P. & O. Company ordered last year. The names of this quartet are the *India*, *China*, *Arabia*, and *Egypt*, and the vessels are twin screw, 8000 tons (*Arabia* 7910), and 11,000 horse power. They are each 300ft. long, 54ft. beam, and 25ft. depth of hold. The *Arabia* has been designed by the company's staff, and is the outcome of their experience of what is required in a ship to perform such a mail and passenger service as is carried out by the company. She is on the Admiralty list of vessels to be used as armed cruisers, having been constructed with a view to war as well as peace; for, in order to act as armed cruisers, for which purpose a number of the company's ships have been retained by Her Majesty's Government, all this class of ships can be made ready at very short notice to render valuable aid in case of threatened attack on any of our colonial or Eastern ports. One of the special necessary features in this way is that there are no water-tight doors in the bulkheads below the water-line, except in one instance, of the engine-room bulkhead, and all the water-tight bulkheads are carried to the upper deck. As a transport, armed or unarmed, she could carry fully 2500 soldiers.

AN AUDACIOUS THEFT.
A building contractor named Lo Nam, of 14 Stanton Street, returned from the Theatre on the evening of the 21st inst., and found that his concubine, who had been with him for a month, was missing. Early in the morning, on opening his leather box under his bed in his room, he missed \$1,000 which was in the box and also a few gold car picks which were in his jacket. The money consisted of ten \$100 bills and the car picks were worth \$10 each. When he went to the Theatre the box was locked and he had the key with him; but when he missed the money he examined the lock and found that it had been forced and a report was made to the Police the same day, with the result that his paramour and her mother were arrested by a Chinese constable in Hongkong. The mother said that she had some of the money in a house in San-ki-wan and on being taken there she handed to the Police eight \$100 notes. On the concubine being searched at the charge-room \$140, the car-picks and a silver watch were found in her possession. Both the women were brought before the Magistracy to-day, Mr. Grist appearing for the complainant. They admitted the offence and were sentenced to six months' imprisonment each; the money, car-picks and watch being returned to the complainant.

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

SUPREME COURT.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

(Before His Lordship the Chief Justice, Sir J. W. Carrington, Kt., C.M.G.)

December 30th.

D. GUBRAY AND OTHERS v. E. R. BELLILLO.

The plaintiffs, Messrs. D. Gubray, A. J. Raymond and A. J. David, sued on behalf of the Jewish Community of Hongkong for the recovery of Island Lot No. 1381 from the defendant.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. Thomson, of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings), appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson) for the defendant.

On the question of whether the Court should decree for specific performance instead of declaration of trust.

His Lordship—Do you wish to say anything with regard to the course of argument, Mr. Francis?

Mr. Francis—No, my Lord.

In answer to Mr. Pollock as to what his Lordship meant, he said that it was as to whether it would be the power of the Court to decree specific performance now assuming that it did not see its way to grant the petition as it stood.

Mr. Francis said that it seemed to him that that it would better be left to the end. Counsel would conclude with that point when his friend could reply on it.

His Lordship said that he had considered the matter and had looked through the proper text books. At the present stage the Court could not make a decree of specific performance assuming that the Court would not make a decree declaring the defendant a trustee. If the other point fell through the petition should be amended and should be concluded with a prayer for specific performance.

Mr. Pollock submitted that his learned friend was not entitled to an amendment as he had not elected or applied for it.

Mr. Francis said that he had not the least objection to ask his Lordship to permit him to amend the prayer for specific performance. The Court would be in the position of referring to this but the evidence was sufficient.

His Lordship said that alternative prayer should be added for specific performance.

Mr. Pollock objected to any amendment being made. This action was framed for declaration of trust and he came to the Court with the understanding that the plaintiffs' case rested entirely on a declaration of trust. If any amendment would be made in the plaintiffs' petition it would be necessary for his answer to be given also.

Mr. Francis—Not for the prayer. Mr. Pollock said that his whole case was that certain negotiations took place between the parties and that he was perfectly correct in not referring to them in any way, as the action was brought for declaration of trust, his contention being that no declaration of trust whatever existed with regard to a single foot of 1381.

His Lordship—I do not think I will trouble you further on the point. I think the whole case will be this: let the case proceed as it stands now, and suppose the plaintiffs support a declaration of trust, the plaintiffs succeed. Suppose otherwise, and the Court will not make a decree with respect to declaration of trust, then I will allow Mr. Francis to apply for an amendment for specific performance. At present I will reserve leave for Mr. Francis to apply for the amendment.

Mr. Pollock said that, assuming that his learned friend was correct in framing this action for a declaration of trust, his contention was that the plaintiffs' case must nevertheless fail because their case was created as regards the whole of lot 1381, and it was understood that the whole of the lot should be used as a site for the Synagogue. The defendant's case to the contrary was that so much land only was in the contemplation of the parties as was reasonably necessary for the purpose of a Synagogue and it was the evidence that that was the understanding of both parties. It was quite clear from the reports of three different firms of architects that the combined areas were more than sufficient for the purpose of the Synagogue. Mr. Bellillo never intended to transfer more land than would be sufficient and he could not have expected or supposed for a single moment that the Community would take any more ground than was reasonably required in view of the difficulty in funds and the appeal to Mr. Jacob Sassoon, which was made as late as May, 1896. He submitted that the natural interpretation of the words "The trustees have settled to take over the whole of the lot" in the letter from Mr. Orange to Mr. Danby, was that they had only then decided to take over the whole of the lot, and therefore when the trustees wrote the letter to Mr. Bellillo of 21st March, they did not have in their mind to take over the whole of the ground. He argued that the trustees could not have been very serious when Mr. Raymond said that they would not stand Mr. Bellillo's nonsense, because immediately after the meeting Mr. Raymond went to the Hongkong Club with Mr. Danby and drank a drink.

His Lordship—There is no point in that observation if the drink was with Mr. Bellillo in the afternoon (laughter).

Mr. Francis—There was no hot that they wanted to drink (laughter).

Mr. Pollock—Does your Lordship agree with me?

His Lordship—If you could show that the plaintiffs invited the defendant to drink.

Mr. Pollock, resuming his argument, said that the defendant's position was all along that he agreed to transfer certain plots but the trustees would not accept it and turned round and asked for the whole of the ground. If the plaintiffs asked for a portion as was reasonably required for the building of a Synagogue then this action would never have been taken. After the 29th March the trustees claimed that they were entitled to the whole lot. He submitted that his client had put a correct construction on the negotiations which were that the community should get what was actually sufficient for the Synagogue. If no question was raised for settling with the parties would have come to an agreement because they had actually come to a definite agreement that the piece of ground marked off should go to the Community and the remaining portion of 1381 should go to Mr. Bellillo. He submitted that the Court must look into the matter as a whole and see what was the actual intention. Counsel quoted a judgment of Lord Selbourne on the intentions of parties.

Mr. Francis commenced summing up at 2:40 p.m. He contended that the reports of Messrs. Danby, Leigh and Orange and Mr. Lemm all went to show that the site for the Synagogue all through were lots 1216 and 1217. One of these by itself would not be sufficient for the Synagogue and they recommended the trustees to purchase both which was advisable because they could sell the surplus ground with the advantage that they could fix the conditions on which it could be used. He submitted that Mr.

Bellillo instructed Mr. Danby as the agent or as the representative of the Jewish Community, and his application was made to both lots. Why did Mr. Bellillo choose to be written to Mr. Silas that he ought further delay would be inadvisable or why should he write to Mr. Silas that Mr. Danby had applied for the lots if he intended the land for himself? If he was not an agent or representative of the community at all why should he communicate to Mr. Silas what he had done? Mr. Bellillo had voluntarily put himself as an agent and the letter from Mr. Morris to Mr. Silas saying that Mr. Bellillo would hand over the ground within a reasonable time upon reimbursement of costs, etc., was not a letter that would have been written by a person offering ground for sale. He submitted that Mr. Bellillo applied for and purchased the ground as a trustee or as a representative of the Jewish Community. Mr. Bellillo had not divested himself from the position of trustee which he had assumed in 1893 and if his Lordship found that he would be bound to declare Mr. Bellillo a trustee with regard to the ground.

After further argument by Counsel the Court adjourned till 10:30 a.m. to-morrow. Mr. Francis said he would probably finish before then.

TICHBORNE AGAIN!

ANOTHER "CLAIMANT" IN THE FIELD

It was with relief that people saw the end of the famous Tichborne trial some score or more of years ago, and now, from Australia, comes news that indicates we have not yet seen the last of the *caus célèbre* of the century. For many years past there has been, among the inmates of the Parramatta Lunatic Asylum, outside Sydney, a man named William Creswell, whom many people have all along believed to be the "real Sir Roger." After much boisterous of the Government, the partisans of Creswell have succeeded in getting an order from the Chief Judge in Equity for two doctors to examine Creswell's marks, &c., and report to the Master in Lunacy. When the mail left the doctors had made their report but it was treated as confidential. One of the Creswell party, however, said he understood the report was not favourable to their claim. People in England are also moving in the matter and some of the Australian supporters are sparing neither time nor money in the work. Mr. Priestman, a Sydney commercial man, who is an active mover in the case, said he did not think the doctors' report would be unfavourable. "Dr. Fiaschi and Mr. 'ornick," he said to a *News* reporter, "acknowledge that Creswell resembled Tichborne in so far as the twirling of the bushy eyebrows was concerned. He had a similar flat, ample forehead—not particularly flat, the doctors said—the large scar on the back of the left wrist, but not the tattoo mark, which I have the affidavit of five witnesses who have seen the mark to prove that Creswell really has it. The scar on Creswell's wrist is said to have been caused by a fall against a meat hook. The doctors say there is no abnormal lump on the instep, which the real Sir Roger is said to have had, but they did not say that there is no lump at all. They deny certain marks which I have sworn to, especially the cut on the temple artery, and also the mark of issue on the left arm. They acknowledge that he has marked blue eyes, large, but not particularly pensive, while I stated that he had large greyish-blue eyes. They denied the cuts on both ankles, the arms where Sir Roger had been tied, also the limp in his walk, which I saw and have sworn to seeing it. They admit that Creswell has odd ears, but they deny that they are in accordance with Tichborne's ears, as described by Lord Chief Justice Cockburn in his summing up in the great Tichborne claimant's case. They deny the mark caused by a fishhook on Tichborne's right eyelid, which occurred on board the *Pauline* in 1853, while he was on the voyage from Liverpool to Valparaiso, and which I distinctly saw on Creswell, and can swear to."

When interrogated as to what he intended doing in the face of the adverse report, Mr. Priestman said he had about a dozen very strong affidavits, and the report would not discourage him. "I have three or four persons prepared to swear that they have seen the tattoo mark on Creswell's left wrist; yet the doctors say there is no mark. I had not seen the mark myself, but I mentioned I would be discouraged myself, but knowing them to be on Creswell, I am perfectly satisfied. Matters do certainly look gloomy, but these sorts of cases are never won without a hard fight. The inmate of the asylum says that his name is William Creswell, and that he came here in the *Malde of Judah*, in 1854. If this inmate's real name is Creswell, why did the brothers of the claimant Oton come out to Sydney to try and get hold of him for the purpose of taking him to England at Arthur Oton? If he is William Creswell, what had he to do with the Otons? The fact of the matter is this, if they (Otons) had been allowed to take Creswell to England at that time the claimant, I believe, would have owned up that he was Arthur Oton, and assisted in placing the rightful heir in possession of the estates. When I visited Creswell in the asylum, a Mrs. Jenkins and I remained chatting with him for about an hour and a half a couple of words being exchanged. I addressed him as "my friend," but Mrs. Jenkins called him Roger, and he offered us objections to her doing so. When she told him that I was his friend, he asked me if that were so, and when I assured him that I would be his friend, he took my hand and pressed it warmly. Mrs. Jenkins advised him to own to his proper name, but, after looking at the warder, he placed one of his fingers on his lip, and was silent. He admitted having estates in Hampshire, and he was going to name another county, when his eyes changed to fall on the warder, and he was dumb once more." Asked how many times he had visited Creswell, Mr. Priestman answered, "Only once, they would not let me see him again. When I was leaving he asked, my friend, to go and see him again; but I have not been allowed. During the whole of the time Mrs. Jenkins and I were with him he was perfectly sane, and talked quite rationally. I think he has made a vow to himself never to disclose his identity, at least while he remains in Australia. Even before he

AN INTERNATIONAL SWINDLE.

A NEW PHASE OF THE "CONFIDENCE TRICK."

The last Australian mail brings news of a very novel sort of "confidence game" being played on the worthy people of New South Wales and the operators appear to have their headquarters at Valencia, in Spain. An Albany resident was not a little surprised, says the *Evening News*, to receive a letter bearing a Spanish postmark, which set out that a relative of the colonist's had died in Spain, leaving a fortune, and a small draft was required to pay legal expenses, etc. The Albany man was not to be caught, however. A couple of Sydney residents have also been favored with correspondence of a similar kind. One was foolish enough to send a sum of £365, and later, relying implicitly on the story told by his unknown correspondent, he forwarded a second draft for over £400. Payment of the latter was, however, stopped. Mr. F. Jewell, Sydney Rope Works, North Bond, another who was written to. In a letter from Valencia, and dated October 17th, the writer, who signed himself Rafael Diaz, stated that his wife was related to Mr. Jewell, but she died recently, leaving one daughter. Diaz states he took part in the Cuban rebellion, and returning to Spain, was seized, and thrown into a fortress; but he managed to escape a sum of £3500 in cash out of the wreck of his fortune. His health is bad, and he is aware that his earthly career is now close. By the convulsion of the chaplain of the prison, he is enabled to write. The next letter comes to Mr. Jewell from the chaplain, informing him of the death of Diaz, and that he has been appointed executor and guardian of the girl. Copies of the will in Spanish, and English were also sent. But there are certain law costs to be paid, and a draft payable in London is asked for, whereupon everything being put in order, the chaplain intimates that he and the girl will start for Australia. A letter from the girl came to hand. It is in English, and enclosed a photo of a dark-eyed beauty of about 17 summers, who implores her "dear uncle's" protection, and signs herself "his most affectionate niece. Cicely Diaz Jewell."

At Mr. Jewell had no relatives in Spain, he became suspicious, and the matter was reported to the police. The letters are written in a cramped hand; one or two would appear to have been turned into English from the Spanish by the aid of a dictionary, but in others there is a smattering of correct idiom. There is no denying. Should "Cicely" do before coming to age, the chaplain and Mr. Jewell share her future according to the will. It would appear that quite a number of Sydney residents have had rich relatives dying in Spain lately.

Exchanges of later dates state that similar letters were received by gentlemen living in Parramatta, Carcoar, Bathurst, and Paterson. Though they vary somewhat in detail, there is a very strong family resemblance between them. Diaz, the rich father or uncle, and the dark-eyed niece are ever present, as is also the danger of death, and, of course, the fortune. The bland request for the necessary cash accompanies all epistles, and the "reverend chaplain" plays his part in each one. But the Cuban story is not so religiously adhered to. The gentleman who so promptly replied to a bank draft for £662, and who may now consider himself permanently poorer by that amount, received the first letter some time ago. In the writer, asked no money, however, he said, however, that he, a nobleman of Spain, was dying in a fortress at Madrid. His imprisonment was caused through his intimate friendship with the late King of Spain, which had made him many enemies. For a time he fled to England, where he secreted his fortune and married an English lady, but returning privately and in disguise to Spain, he was recognised, charged with a trivial offence, and committed to goal indefinitely by political enemies. His young wife died soon afterwards, but during their married life had often spoken of her mother's dear relations in Australia. As she now wanted was that his dear niece, Cicely, whom falling health must soon force him to leave, might receive the guardianship of her antipodean relations. The fortune which would result from his death would be ample to give her the position of a wealthy woman, and he strongly desired that she might be far removed from the unhappy land in which her young days had been so clouded by trouble and sorrow. Other letters followed, then one from the chaplain announcing the unhappy man's death, and forwarding the copies of the will. In his document the "fortune" was set down at something equivalent to £35,000, of which two-thirds were for Cicely, and the residue for her future kind and devoted guardian. The next letters contained similar demands and proposals to those addressed to Mr. Jewell. "If, however," one of the letters states, "you cannot get so much money, or have not the confidence, there is here a man related to you whom the will requests to lend it for that purpose, and in that event be shares with you your legacy, according as to the amount paid by each of you."

"I share with nobody," probably thought the recipient, as he immediately forwarded the preliminary draft, and soon afterwards another for £400. The latter was stopped by cable at Naples, where the Spanish Consul was communicated with.

The methods suggested and adopted by the swindlers to aid the Sydney man in forwarding the money were simply itself. In order that the remission might be carried out as cheaply as possible to him, he was instructed when the money was forwarded to the bank to enclose a "Ready." A few days afterwards received a cable of acknowledgment equally laconic in its text. It contained the one word, "Touched." To the trusting Sydney man this may have found explanation in the fact that the "reverend gentleman" who received the money had searched his English-Spanish dictionary for a word explanatory of arrival or contract. To outsiders the word signifies a depth of humor not Spanish, but very Anglo-Saxon.

That the letters were the work of some clever gang of the "confidence" variety, who wide in its operations, is now certain. In March last London *Truth* devoted an extensive article to the exposure of this very fraud, by means of which thousands of people in the European countries and on the continent of America had been victimized. Cape Colony next received a turn, Australia having been left last of all. It is probable that the other Australian colonies have been inundated with similar correspondence. Each intended victim, who is probably selected by a special emissary or advance agent, is requested to keep the subject matter of the letter a profound secret, "that in the future Cicely's early history may not be too well known to her friends, who may meet at her uncle having died in prison." Thus the plan was less likely to leak out. But the banks became suspicious at the large number of drafts which customers wanted cashed. Bank managers asked their clients for explanations and prevalence of death from imprisonment and broken heart among rich Spanish relatives of Australian colonists was seen to reach alarming proportions. During the past couple of months no less than £1212 has been forwarded in this way through the Commercial Bank of Sydney alone. Of this £350 has been stopped by cable.

The Spanish Consul at Sydney Mr. F. B. Franklin (an Irishman) is of opinion that there is no Spanish hand in the matter at all.

TYPHOON AND STORM WARNING SERVICE ON THE COAST OF CHINA.

We are indebted to the Rev. P. Louis Froc, S. J., Director of the Siewel Meteorological Observatory (near Shanghai), for a copy of a new code of signals for the valuable service of storm warnings conducted by the worthy Fathers at Shanghai and Chefoo. The new code will come into effect on New Year's Day. For the benefit of shipmasters we reproduce the code in full.

CODE.

Notes.—The flags used for signalling the warnings of this code will be: those of the International Code for the letters, and those of Marryat's Code for the numbers.

PART I.

Typhoons or Depressions.

Number	Signification.
10	Typhoon SE of Luzon
11	do S do
12	do SW do
13	do E do
14	do over Central Luzon
15	do NE of Luzon
16	do N do
17	do NW do
18	do over northern do
19	do SE of the Philippines
20	do S do
21	do SW do
22	do E do
23	do centre do
24	do W do
25	do NE do
26	do N do
27	do NW do
28	do to the Gulf of Tonking
29	do SE of Hongkong
30	do S do
31	do SW do
32	do E do
33	do near do
34	do W do
35	do NE do
36	do NW do
37	do S of Formosa
38	do SW do
39	do E do
40	do over Central Formosa
41	do in the central part of the Formosa Channel
42	do to the North of the Formosa Channel
43	do on land near Swatow
44	do do Amoy
45	do do Foochow
46	do NE of Formosa
47	do N do
48	do N of the Formosa Channel
49	do SE of the Loochoos
50	do E do
51	do over the center do
52	do W do
53	do S of Japan
54	do S of Van Diemen Strait
55	do over the SW of Japan
56	do SE of Nippon
57	do S do
58	do SW do
59	do E do
60	do W do
61	do SE of Shanghai
62	do S do
63	do SW do
64	do E do
65	do near Shanghai
66	do W do
67	do NE do
68	do NW do
69	do S do
70	do over Korea
71	do do Manchuria
72	do do Mongolia
73	do do Siberia
74	do do Western China
75	do in the valley of the Yangtze-kiang
76	do in the Yellow Sea
77	do over the SW of Japan
78	do to the S of the Sea of Japan
79	do do N do
80	do do E do
81	do do SE do
82	do do S do
83	do do SW do
84	do do W do
85	do do NW do
86	do do S do
87	do do E do
88	do do SE do
89	do do S do
90	do do SW do
91	do do W do
92	do do NW do
93	do do S do
94	do do E do
95	do do SE do
96	do do S do
97	do do SW do
98	do do W do
99	do do NW do
00	Direction unknown

PART II.

Storm or Gale Warnings.

These phenomena will be signalled by the letter G followed by 2 figures and one or several letters, according to the subjoined convention.

The figures indicate the directions from which the gale is expected:—

01	stands for NNE	18	stands for SSW
02	do NE	19	do SW
03	do ENE	20	do WSW
04	do E	21	do W
05	do ESE	22	do WNW
06	do SE	23	do NW
07	do SSE	24	do NNW
08	do S	25	do N
09	do SSW	26	do NN
10	do S	27	do NNE

The letters indicate approximately the places threatened with a gale as follows:—

C.	stands for Shanghai and the N. coast of China.
M.	do the estuary of the Yangtze-kiang, the Chusan, &c.
F.	do the Formosa Channel.
D.	do the neighbourhood of the Loochoos, the S. coast of China and the China Sea.
K.	do Korea and the S.W. coast of Japan.
W.	do the Sea of Japan (Korea and the W. coast of Japan).
N.	do the coast of S. of Newchuan and the Gulf of Pechili.
T.	do the coast of Japan bordering the Pacific Ocean.

REMARKS.

1.—These telegrams, mostly transmitted by the Telegraph Company, will be reproduced by the same numbers at the semaphores of the ports receiving the warnings. The letters and figures used are those of the International Code of Signals, and of Marryat's Code respectively.

2.—The letter V added to a typhoon signal means that the centre is in the immediate vicinity of the place indicated by the code.

NOT AND A.

CALENDAR.

DECEMBER.
Meteorological means based on 100 years' observations to 1895.

Barometer	30.177
Thermometer	62.5
Humidity	65.0
Rainfall	1.21

TO-DAY.

Thursday, 30th December, 1897.
Chinese—11th of 12th moon of 23rd year of Kwong-si.
Jewish—5th Tebet, 5658.
Mohammedan—5th Shaaban, 1316.
Sun—Rises 6hr. 37min.
Sets 5hr. 21min.
High water—Morning 8hr. 15min.
Afternoon 2hr. 50min.
Low water—Morning 7hr. 55min.
Afternoon 7hr. 55min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1822—Pope Gregory.
1854—All slaves of the Portuguese Crown declared free.
1874—Prince Alfonso proclaimed King of Spain.
1880—Grand Naval review at Tientsin.
1895—Dr. Rial shot at Manila for conspiracy in the rebellion.

TO-MORROW.

Friday, 31st December, 1897.
(St. Silvester).
Chinese—12th of 12th moon of 23rd year of Kwong-si.
Jewish—6th Tebet, 5658.
Mohammedan—5th Shaaban, 1316.
Sun—Rises 6hr. 37min.
Sets 5hr. 21min.
High water—Morning 8hr. 15min.
Afternoon 2hr. 50min.
Low water—Morning 7hr. 55min.
Afternoon 7hr. 55min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1862—The Hongkong Town Clock first started to chime in 1863.

MEMORANDA.

TO-MORROW, 31st December.
Noon—Meeting of shareholders of the H.K. High Level Tramway Co.

SATURDAY, 1st January.
New Year's Day. All Banks, Insurance, and Government offices closed.

Volunteer gun practice at the bay east of Deep Water Bay during the day.
New rules for the examination of mates and engineers come into force.

SHIPPING AND MAIL NEWS.

MAILS DUE:
Indian (Chitpura) 1st prox.
French (Yarra) 3rd prox.
American (Galle) 3rd prox.
Australian (Australia) 6th prox.
American (City of Peking) 15th prox.

THE Agents (Messrs. Dowdell, Carlin & Co.) inform us that the Northern Pacific Steamship Co.'s steamer *Victoria* arrived at Tacoma, from Hongkong and Japan, on the 28th inst.

THE Canadian Pacific Railway Co.'s steamer *Empress of Japan*, arrived at Kobe at 10.30 p.m. on Tuesday, the 28th inst., and left at 10.30 a.m. yesterday for Yokohama, where she was expected to arrive at 10.30 a.m. to-day, the 30th inst.

SHIPPING RETURNS.
From 5 p.m. yesterday to 5 p.m. to-day.

Uranus	Steamer, from Manila
Halong	" " Canton
Taiwan	" " Canton
Kachidake Maru	" " Amoy
Yoroduki	" " Canton
Taiwan	" " Canton
Aggregating 3,004 tons register.	

DEPARTURES.
Zaire Steamer, for Manila || Halong | " " Canton |
Halong	" " Canton
Taiwan	" " Canton
Kachidake Maru	" " Amoy
Yoroduki	" " Canton
Taiwan	" " Canton
Aggregating 19,369 tons register.	

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK RETURNS.
Maeve (H.G.M.S.) at Kowloon Dock

Lysimoon	" "
Ole	" "
Hermann	" "
West York	" " Cosmopolitan

PASSED THE CANAL.
OUTWARD—30th November—*Diomed, Oanfa, Ceres, Santa, Glenash, 3rd Dec.*—*Bimble, Pingree, Sachem, Yarra, Ghazal, Dordogne, 7th Dec.*—*Argyll, Irene, Glenarney, Amphitrite, Duke, Richmond, Orville, St. Ronald, 10th Dec.*—*Gorda, Nestor, Tantalus, Alaska, Cornhill, 14th Dec.*—*Oceland, 17th Dec.*—*Glenagarry, Olanes, Oceland, 21st Dec.*—*Ningchow, Fennius, Maria, Richmond, Prometheus, 24th Dec.*—*Carmarthenshire, Morda, Valerik, Mordana, 28th Dec.*—*Sydney, Maria, Jibon, Cam, Tiger.*

HOMEWARD—7th December—*Calendine, 14th Dec.*—*Guala, Shanghai, Sunda, 21st Dec.*—*St. Nizian, 24th Dec.*—*Wally, 28th Dec.*—*Bayern.*

SCOTT'S Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites is the most valuable remedy for Consumption, Scrophula, General Debility, Wasting Diseases of Childhood, Chronic Coughs, and Bronchitis that has ever been produced. It is very palatable; it is very fattening and strengthening. It will ease at once the most violent cough and will give both comfort and strength to the sufferer. It possesses the combined virtues of these popular remedies in the fullest form. Any Chemist can supply it. Sole Agents for Hongkong and the Empire of China—Watkins & Co., Hongkong—(Advt.)

OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LTD.

The General Managers, Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, have received the following report from their mining manager by S. S. Chang, Esq.:

Mount Macdonald, 3rd December, 1897.
I have the honour to report work done during week ending 3rd December, as follows:—

Eureka Mine—Mata shaft sunk 3½ feet. Total below 200 ft. level 95½. Country hard and difficult to break. After sinking an additional 10½ feet will open out for the 300 ft. level.

Have started several men to break ore in stope above the 200 and 150 ft. levels, and are engaged hauling ore eight hours per day from these levels. Dividing on the 100 ft. level and south will be resumed shortly. Expect to have full complement of men working underground next week.

G. L. 105—Refill bottom of underlie shaft improving, but owing to the excessively hot weather experienced lately have been troubled with foul air. Steps will be taken to remedy this once.

Oliver's Battery—The new spur wheel to replace the broken one arrived late on Saturday, 27th ultimo, and was put in position as soon as possible, and other portions of works that had to be removed in order to get the broken wheel off, and the new one on, were replaced and crushing was resumed at 12 o'clock on Sunday night, and we are now crushing at the rate of about 200 tons per week.

Everything in connection with both mine and machinery is in first-class order, and unless something that is impossible to foresee occurs we ought to have a long and successful run.

The General Managers have also received the following telegram:—"A crushing of 400 tons of quartz from Eureka has yielded ½ an ounce to the ton. Shaft has reached a depth of 300 feet."

THE NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

The General Managers, Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, have received the following report from their mining manager by the steamer *Changsha*:

Mount Macdonald, 3rd December, 1897.
I have the honour to report that work is being pushed on as speedily as circumstances will permit.

Nothing fresh since last report, but have every confidence that with the opening up of the Queen Mine at the deep anticipated, viz. 350 feet, a prosperous future will result.

The work of putting down and removing the battery to the new site is progressing most satisfactorily.

Intimations.

CARBOLEUM-AVENARIUS
USED FOR OVER 20 YEARS.
WITH THE ULTIMOST SUCCESS.

Thoroughly reliable preservatives for Wood and Stone against White Ants, Decay, Fungus Rot and Damages.

Sole Agents for China, LUTGENS, EINHORN & Co. Hongkong, 11th September, 1897. [33]

KUHN & KOMOR,
JAPANESE FINE ART CURIOS,
21 & 23, QUEEN'S ROAD, HONGKONG,
35, WATER STREET, YOKOHAMA,
and
36, DIVISION STREET, KOBE.
Hongkong, 15th March, 1896. [417]

LEVY HERMANOS,
DIAMOND MERCHANTS, JEWELLERS
AND WATCHMAKERS.

Sole Agents in the East for the amalgamated GILBERT, HUMBER and GLADIATOR Co., Ltd. DUKES' TRAVEL BICYCLES—PRICE, \$185. A special watch made for this climate. Quality A. Price \$125. 10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Opposite the Telegraph Office.

WELL WORTH A CALL!
FINE DISPLAY OF
HIGH CLASS JEWELLERY
Suitable for
NEW YEAR & CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Comprising:—
Latest Novelties in expensive Brooches, Rings, Chatelaines, &c. &c.
Unmounted Precious Stones of every description, selected and set to order.
Chronometers, Chronographs, repeaters and plain Watches in great variety.

PRICES MODERATE.
LEVY HERMANOS,
Hongkong, 13th December, 1897. [184]

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO.,
CHRONOMETER, WATCH, AND CLOCK-
MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER-
SMITHS, AND OPTICIANS.
CHARTS AND BOOKS.
Sole Agents for Louis Audemars' Watches—awarded the highest Prizes at every Exhibition, and for Vulliamier and Sohn's CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES, MARINE GLASSES, and SPECTACLES.
Nos. 54 & 56, Queen's Road Central. [40]

THE LEADING CATERERS.
COMPARE OUR
MENU, BILLIARD TABLES and
LIQUORS to all others.
THE GRILL ROOM.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1897. [1343]

TAKE NOTE
IT IS UNIVERALLY ADMITTED THAT
TO indicate the exact use of words, no
DICTIONARY can compare with the New
Edition of
WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY.

At the office of the *Hongkong Telegraph* you can see, and procure for SIX DOLLARS, a Copy of the *Webster's Dictionary*, the latest and most complete proof that *Latin* *et* *Verba*.

intimation.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS

OF THE
FOOCHOW
TEA IMPROVEMENT
COMPANY, LTD.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCES OF THE COLONY OF HONGKONG, 1865 TO 1890 BY WHICH THE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS IS LIMITED TO THE AMOUNT OF THEIR SHARES.

CAPITAL—\$250,000, HONGKONG CURRENCY.
Divided into 5,000 Shares of \$50 each, of which it is proposed to issue at present the sum of \$125,000 in 2,500 Shares of \$50 each, and the balance of \$125,000 in 2,500 Shares, as may be hereafter determined on.

Of the 2,500 Shares now to be issued, 500 Shares, which will be fully paid up, will be taken by the vendors, in full payment of the properties, business, goodwill, machinery, and effects purchased from them by the Company, and the remaining 2,000 Shares are now offered to the Public.

Issue of \$100,000 in 2,000 Shares of \$50 each payable as follows:—
\$10 per Share on application.
\$10 per Share 3 months after allotment and the balance as thereafter required.

DIRECTORS.
GUSTAV THEODOR STRUMER, Esq., of Messrs. Strumer and Krohn, Foochow, Merchants.
ERNEST JOSEPH MOSS, Esq., of Messrs. Dodwell, Carlin & Co., Foochow, Merchants.
WILLIAM GRAHAM, Esq., of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Foochow, Merchants.
FREDERICK HENRY WALLACE FRASER, Esq., of Messrs. Fraser, Ramsay & Co., Foochow, Merchants.
MICHAEL GABRIEL KISCILEY, Esq., of Messrs. Theobald, Molotoff & Co., Foochow, Merchants.
LUI YUEN YIN, of Foochow, Merchant.
HUANG PAI AN, of Foochow, Merchant.

SECRETARY.
WILLIAM PHILLIPS GALTON, Esq., Foochow.

BANKERS.
THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

SOLICITORS.
Messrs. DEACON & HASTINGS, Hongkong.

PROSPECTUS.
THE Company is being formed to acquire as a going concern the business of Tea Planters and Tea Merchants heretofore carried on by the Association called "The Fochow Tea Improvement Company" at Fochow and Peking in the Fokien Province of China.

Recent experiments in the manufacture of tea carried out by the Association at Peking with the aid of Machinery have been attended with much success, inasmuch as tea of greatly improved character and quality have been produced, and it is therefore considered that the time has now arrived when capital on a larger scale can be successfully employed in various parts of the Fokien Province. In this connection, it should be stated that the Chinese Government officials have shown themselves favourably disposed towards the Company, and have expressed their intention to protect and assist it in every way.

The property to be acquired from the Association in consideration of the allotment of the 500 fully paid up shares comprises the good will of the business and all its Trade Marks and Chops, the Association's lands in the Fokien Province of China with a Factory, house for the Chinese Manager, office, and coolie quarters; also a new "Yunnan" firing machine, and three new rolling tables, and a sifting machine, the whole being worked by a water wheel 12 feet in diameter and a 2-horse power; also 1 Campbell's Oil Engine, 10 horse-power; one Davidson's Sirocco, two Blackman's Fans, and one Davidson's Cutter; also 4,400 Withering Trays and Stands, and Scales and requisite godown appliances; also a cash balance at the credit of the Association amounting to \$1,795.16. The land will be vested in two Chinese shareholders as Trustees for the Company.

The Chinese growers in the vicinity of the Factory have always been willing sellers of all times available for manufacture.

As regards the prospects of the financial success of the Company, the Directors would particularly draw attention to the advantage China now has over India and Ceylon in cheap silver. This, fully compensated for the taxation which China tea has to present to bear. The cheapness of land, the low scale of wages, and the excellent quality of Chinese labour are likewise facts which cannot be overlooked.

The Machinery has been erected by and is in charge of a resident English Engineer, who is the Company's Property Manager, and has for some years been in charge of a tea factory in India.

The Chinese Manager was recently sent to Ceylon by the Association, where he had practical experience in tea making.

It is proposed to take over the business as a going concern at the 10th Jan. 1898, and to enlarge the existing factory at Peking, and establish other factories in suitable districts.

